



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

October 18, 2012

JOHN RIEDMAN, TREASURER
NEW YORK REPUBLICAN FEDERAL CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE
315 STATE STREET
ALBANY, NY 12210

Response Due Date
11/23/2012

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00055582

REFERENCE: JULY MONTHLY REPORT (06/01/2012 - 06/30/2012)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 8 item(s):

1. Please amend your report by providing the purpose for each disbursement itemized on Schedule(s) B and H4 supporting Line(s) 21(b) and 21(a). (11 CFR §§104.3(a)(4) and 104.10(4))
2. Schedule B of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement may have to be itemized. For example, if the related payment(s) to any one vendor by the staff aggregates in excess of \$200 for the calendar year, the payment(s) must be itemized as a memo entry for that reimbursement. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule B, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. If itemization is not necessary for a particular reimbursement to staff in excess of \$500, you must clarify this in an amendment to this report. (11 CFR §104.9 and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3)
3. Schedule H3 of your report discloses a transfer(s) in from a non federal account(s) for "NYRSC Operating 315 State Street" and "NYRSC Reporting 315 State Street," which appear to exceed the permissible amount(s) indicated

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by your allocation ratio for this activity/event. Please be advised that transfers for allocated activity must not exceed the non federal share of the joint disbursements and that these transfers must be made within a 70 day time period: no more than 10 days before or 60 days after payment to the vendor. (11 CFR §§106.6(e)(2) and 106.7(f)(2)) Please clarify the nature of this transfer(s) in from the non federal account.

The Commission recommends that you immediately transfer the total excessive amount received by your federal account back to your non federal account. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

4. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses \$2,941.08 in activity identified as MEMO entries that do not appear to correspond with any itemized transaction(s). Please be advised, a memo entry is used to disclose additional information about an itemized transaction and the amount of a memo entry is not included in the total receipts or disbursements for the report. Please amend your report to provide clarifying information regarding this activity. (11 C.F.R. § 104.3(a) and (b))

5. Schedule H4 of your report discloses a reimbursement(s) to an individual(s) for apparent travel and subsistence advances in which the total amount reimbursed exceeds \$500. When the reimbursement amount to staff for travel and subsistence advances exceeds \$500, the payments by committee staff that make up the reimbursement have to be itemized as memo entries regardless of the amount. Each memo entry must include the complete name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and an adequate purpose. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule H4, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. (11 CFR §§104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinion 1996-20, footnote 3)

6. Schedule H4 of your report discloses reimbursements to individuals for "office supplies" and "meeting lunch." Please be advised that when itemizing reimbursements to individuals for goods or services, payment to the original vendors must be itemized as memo entries regardless of amount. Each memo entry must include the name and address of the original vendor, as well as the date, amount and purpose of the original purchase must be provided. Please amend your report to include the missing information and clearly identify on the Schedule H4, which reimbursement each memo entry relates to. (11 CFR § 104.10 and 104.17, and Advisory Opinions 1992-1 and 1996-20, footnote 3)

7. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payment(s) for

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"parttime employee," "disability insurance," "insurance," "tax withholdings," "payroll 5/20/12-06/02/12," "payroll 06/03/12-06/16/12," "payroll 06/17/12-06/30/12" and "payroll 05/20/12-06/02/12." Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(2), salaries and wages for employees who spend more than 25% of their compensated time in a given month on Federal Election Activity (FEA) or activities in connection with a Federal election must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Rather, only federal funds may be used. Further, the Commission concluded in Advisory Opinion 2003-11 that amounts spent for employee-specific "fringe benefits," consisting of health insurance, disability insurance, life insurance, retirement benefits and payroll taxes, fall into the category of compensated time.

Please clarify whether this activity is for employees who spent 25% or less of their time during the month(s) referenced above on FEA or activities in connection with a Federal election. If this is not the case, any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for this payment is not permissible and must be returned. Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding any improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

8. Schedule H4 supporting Line 21(a) of your report discloses a payment(s) for "mail equipment," "communications consultants," "communications consultant" and "banner design." Please be advised that pursuant to 11 CFR §300.33(c)(1), expenditures for public communications (as defined by 11 CFR §100.26) that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any such candidate for Federal office must not be allocated between or among federal and non-federal accounts. Only federal funds may be used.

Further, expenditures and disbursements for public communications that refer to a clearly identified candidate for Federal office and that promote, support, attack or oppose any candidate for Federal office, meet the definition of Federal Election Activity under 11 CFR §100.24 and should be disclosed on Schedule B for Line 30(b) along with the identity of the candidate(s). However, public communications that meet the definition of Federal Election Activity and that also contain express advocacy as defined under 11 CFR §100.22, but do not meet the conditions of exempt activity, would constitute an in-kind contribution, an independent expenditure or a coordinated party expenditure and should be properly disclosed on a Schedule B, E or F supporting Lines 23, 24 or 25, as appropriate, rather than on Schedule B for Line 30(b). Please amend your report to properly disclose this activity or

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provide clarifying information.

If this activity was categorized incorrectly, the Commission recommends that you immediately transfer the funds received by your federal account for this activity back to the non-federal account. Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning this prohibited activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1172.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Broomhead
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division